

On the genus *Eurostoptinus* Pic, 1895 (Coleoptera, Ptinidae)

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On the genus *Eurostoptinus* Pic, 1895 (Coleoptera, Ptinidae) – The genus *Eurostoptinus*, and its constituent species, *E. algericus* (Pic) and *E. mazuri* sp. n., are redescribed or, respectively, described. In general appearance these species resemble members of the genus *Pseudeurostus* Heyden (= *Eurostus* Muls. & Rey), particularly *P. submetallicus* (Fairmaire). The new species may be distinguished by the pronotal microsculpture.

Key-words: Coleoptera - Ptinidae - *Eurostoptinus* - Algeria.

INTRODUCTION

PIC (1895) based a new subgenus of *Eurostus* Muls. & Rey, *Eurostoptinus*, on a new species from Algeria, *E. algericus*. Later, *Eurostoptinus* was treated as a genus (PIC, 1907; 1912). It appears related to *Pseudeurostus* Heyden (= *Eurostus* Muls & Rey) but may be readily distinguished by the pronotal shape, pubescence and microsculpture, and by the elytral shape. In a collection made recently in Algeria, a second member of *Eurostoptinus* was present. This species is new and described below. The range of the genus, including two apterous species, is possibly restricted to Algeria.

The type and other examined material are deposited in the Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Geneva.

Eurostoptinus Pic, 1895

Eurostus Muls. & Rey sg. *Eurostoptinus*; type species: *Eurostus algericus* Pic, 1895, by monotypy.

Length 2-3.2 mm. Body black or dark brown. Abdomen redish-brown. Dorsal and ventral surface covered by yellow pubescence. Labrum, legs and abdomen brown or reddish, with pubescence thicker than that on most of the body surface. Antennal

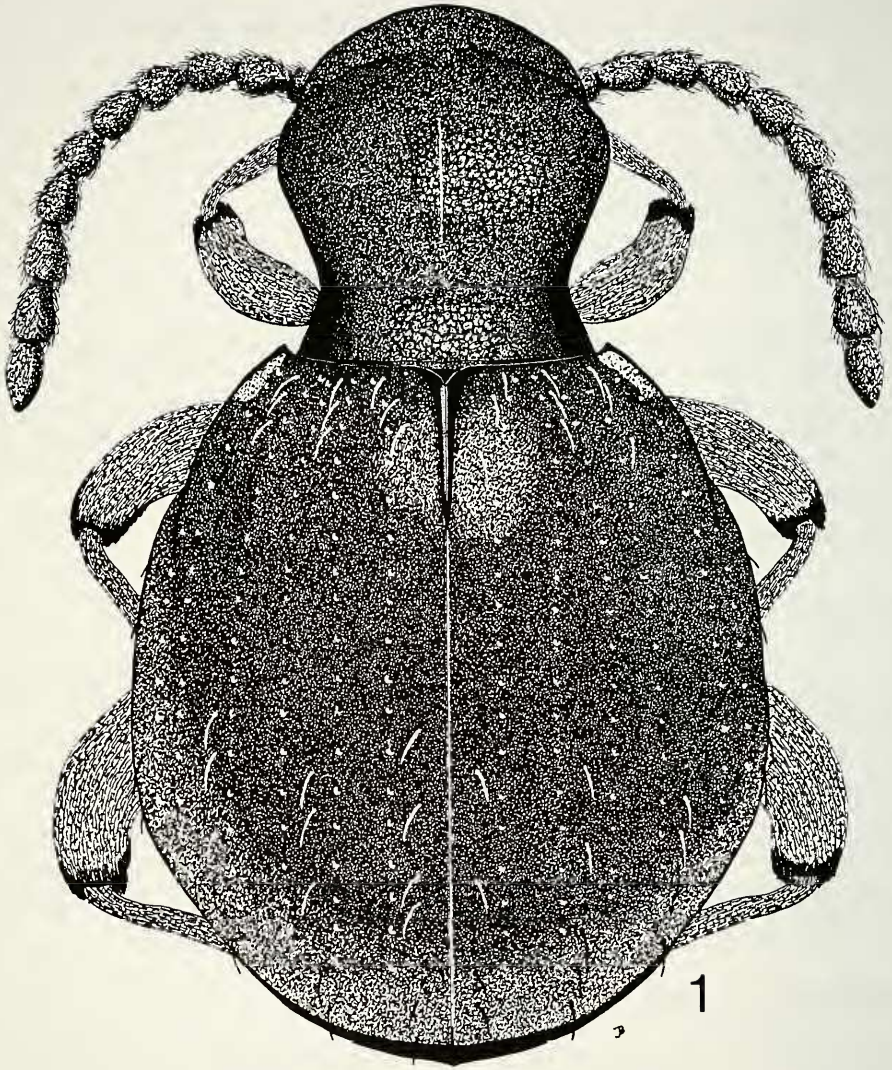


FIG. 1

Eurostoptinus mazuri n. sp.: dorsal view.

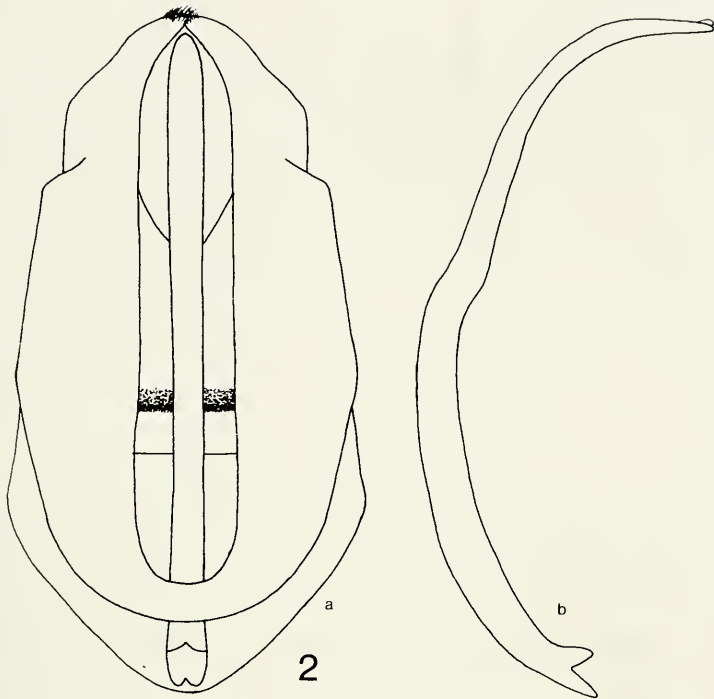


FIG. 2

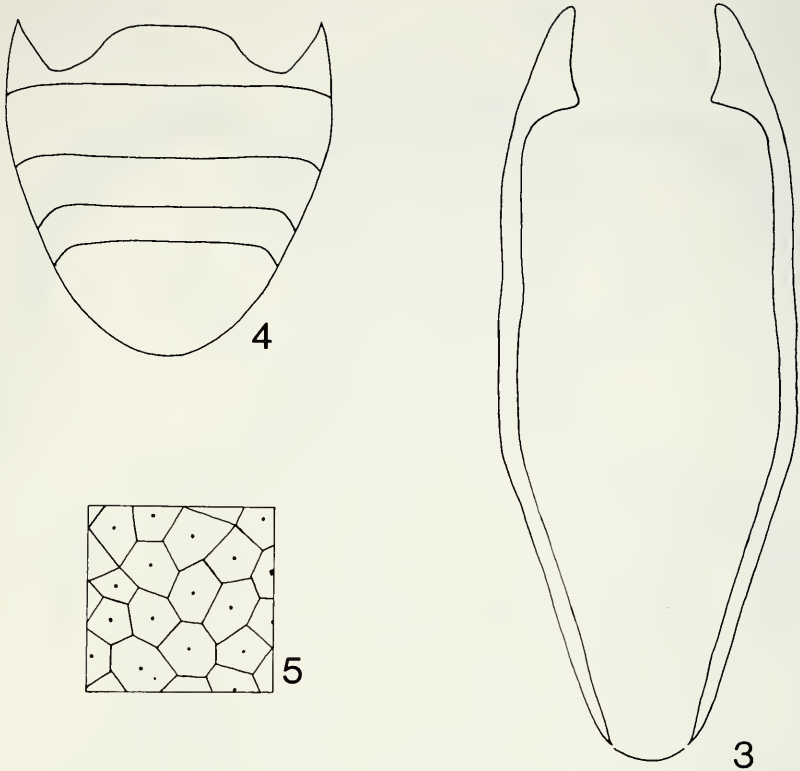
Eurostoptinus mazuri n. sp.: aedeagus (a), median lobe (b).

segments short, with pubescence thickest near base, becoming gradually shorter toward apex. Head elongate, with sparse pubescence. Antennal fossae deep, with sharp upper edge and sharpened sides. Eyes small. Pronotum with two blunt lateral callosities; pubescence absent or sparse on anterior side; pronotal microsculpture polygonal or consisting of flat verucae. Scutellum small, triangular. Elytra convex, shiny, narrowed toward apex; anterior angles strongly extended forward, humeral callosity distinct, elytral pubescence irregular, thicker on base and apex, present only on even intervals; discal striae faintly marked, sutural margin raised anteriorly. Metathoracic wings absent.

***Eurostoptinus algericus* (Pic, 1895)**

(Figs 6 to 9)

DESCRIPTION: Length 2-2.5 mm. Body dorsally black, shiny, with sparse pubescence. Head brown, antennae and legs reddish. Ventral side of body entirely pubescent, dark brown, apical abdominal segment reddish. Pronotum with rounded lateral callosities.



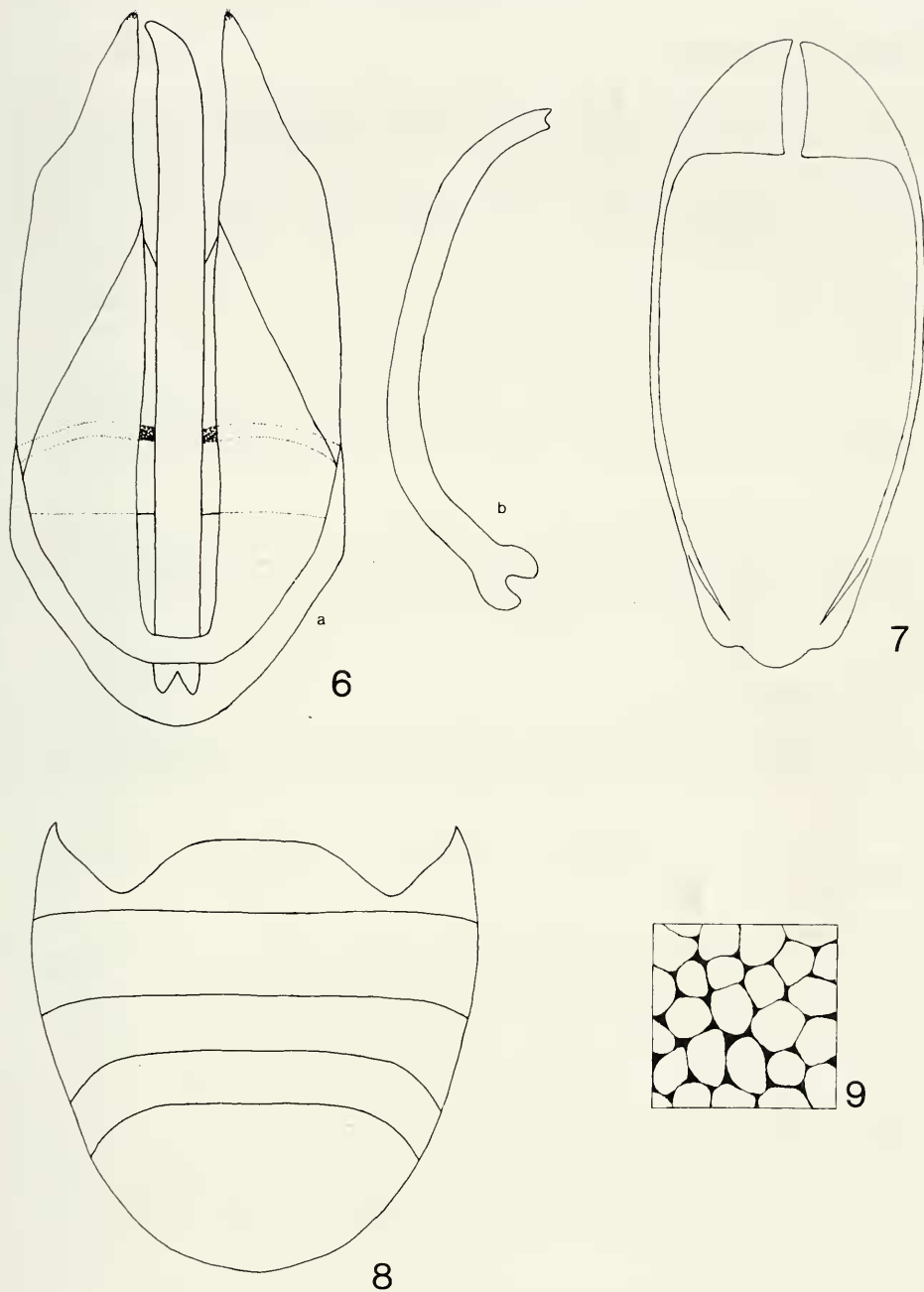
FIGS 3-5

Eurostoptinus mazuri n. sp.: male genital segment (3), visible abdominal sternites (4), sculpture surface of pronotum (5).

Pronotal microsculpture consisting of flattened verrucae (Fig. 9); discal pubescence absent, pubescence on anterior surface sparse. Scutellum hardly visible. Elytra short, shiny, with hardly visible rows of punctures, latter shallow, fairly distant from each other. Free abdominal ventrites 3 and 4 of same length (Fig. 8). Male genital segment as Fig. 7. Aedeagus with symmetrical parameres (Fig. 6).

DISTRIBUTION: Algeria (recorded by Pic, 1907 from: Collo, Tizirt, Yakouren, Azazga, Djurdjura, Djebel, Babor, Cap Aokas).

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Algeria. Yakouren, 730 m, 12.V.1988, leg. Burckhardt, Löbl, Besuchet, 1 specimen; Forêt d'Akfadou, 13 km from Yakouren, 1050 m, 16.V.1988, leg. Burckhardt, Löbl, Besuchet, 1 specimen.



FIGS 6-9

Eurostoptinus algericus (Pic): aedeagus (6a), median lobe (6b), male genital segment (7), visible abdominal sternites (8), sculpture surface of pronotum (9).

Eurostoptinus mazuri sp. n.

(Figs 1 to 5)

DESCRIPTION: Length 3.2 mm. Body black, ventrally blackish-brown; shiny, covered by sparse pubescence. Head somewhat narrower than pronotum, with short pubescence. Eyes small, hardly prominent. Pronotum with two large lateral callosities, hardly convex in middle, median groove narrow. Anterior side of pronotum with few hairs. Pronotal microsculpture distinct, polygonal, with fine points in centers (Fig. 5). Scutellum small. Elytra convex, narrowed apically, with marked humeral ridge. Elytral pubescence very fine, mostly present on anterior and posterior surface; yellowish hairs present on lateroposterior edge. Free abdominal ventrite 3 distinctly longer than 4 (Fig. 4). Male genital segment as Fig. 3. Aedeagus symmetrical, as Fig. 2.

HOLOTYPE, male: Algeria, Djurjura, Tikjda, 1430 m, 6.V.1988, leg. Burckhardt, Löbl, Besuchet.

PARATYPE, female: Algeria, Djurjura, Tala Guilef, 1300 m, 11.V.1988, leg. Burckhardt, Löbl, Besuchet.

REMARKS: The new species may be distinguished from *E. algericus* by the large size of the body, the microsculpture of the pronotum and the shape of the aedeagus. Both, *E. mazuri* and *E. algericus* inhabit oak forests of Grand Kabilia. Specimens collected by the Geneva entomologist's are from sifted moist forest litter.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My thanks are due to Dr. I. Löbl, Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Geneva, for the loan of the material and for comments on the manuscript.

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